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five guineas. The musical performance was on the usual extensive scale, Madame Arabella Goddard, Madame Parepa, Mr. Winn, Mr. Larazus (clarinet), and Mr. Svendsen (flute), being amongst the principal artists who volunteered their gratuitous services on the occasion. The concerted music was under the direction of Mr. James Coward, and the songs were accompanied on the pianoforte by Mr. C. E. Stephens.

THE prospectus of the "English Opera Association" is hopeful, as all prospectuses are; but the announcement that the Establishment will not be conducted by either professor or artist is one essential point in favour of success. The Directors have made an arrangement with Mr. Gye for the occupation of Covent Garden Theatre for a term of years, commencing on the first Monday in October next. We need scarcely say that we cordially wish every success to the enterprise.

WE should be glad if we could call the attention of the musical profession to the distressing case of Mr. T. F. Walmisley (father of the late professor of music at Cambridge), on whose behalf a fund is now being collected. When we state that he is in a condition of great pecuniary embarrassment, and is now in his 80th year, we feel certain that not only those who have known him in his days of prosperity, but others to whom the painful facts of the case must simply plead for themselves, will come forward to assist in smoothing his declining years.

IN proof of the position which music has permanently taken in this country, we may mention that on two of the days devoted to the Tercentenary Festival in honor of the birth of Shakespeare, at Stratford-upon-Avon, it will assert its claim to be heard in glorification of our greatest poet. On Monday, the 25th instant, at noon, Handel's Oratorio, the *Messiah*, will be performed by an orchestra and chorus of 500 performers, under the direction of Mr. Alfred Mellon, the solo parts by Madame Tietjens, Madame Sainton Dolby, Mr. Sims Reeves, Mr. Santley, &c. On the same evening a miscellaneous concert of Shakespearian music will take place; and on the morning of the 23th, at the Shakespeare Rooms, there will be a concert of instrumental music and glees selected from his plays. A Shakespearian Festival, in which music will take a prominent part, is also announced at the Crystal Palace, on the 23rd inst. Here, in addition to the full band of the company, and a military band, Mr. Leslie's choir will sing a selection of music associated with the poet's works; and a madrigalian chorus, composed by Mr. Henry Leslie expressly for this occasion, will be performed for the first time. We also hear of a similar musical performance at the Agricultural Hall (for which Mr. G. A. Macfarren has written a song and chorus) and at St. James's Hall; so that the metropolis will not fail in celebrating the memory of the poet with musical honors.

WE understand that Mendelssohn's Oratorio, *St. Paul*, will be performed on the 15th inst., by the Sacred Harmonic Society.

AT the Festival of the three Choirs, which takes place this year at Hereford, we understand that the following will be the order of performances:—First morning, Parts 1 and 2 of the *Creation*, and Beethoven's Service in C. Second morning, *Elijah*. Third morning, Spohr's *Fall of Babylon* (part 1); Rossini's *Stabat Mater* (the English version), and selections from *Judas Maccabæus* and *Israel in Egypt*. Fourth morning, the *Messiah*. We also hear that Benedict's successful cantata, *Richard Cœur de Lion*, will form a feature at one of the evening concerts.

THOSE who appreciate the indefatigable exertions of Miss Louisa Pyne, will be glad to learn that a committee has been formed to present her with a testimonial on her retirement from the management of the Royal English Opera; and that in the printed list of names we find many of the leading members of the profession.

ON Sunday, 28th February, a new organ was opened at Greville Place Church (congregational), St. John's Wood,

by Mr. Sirkett, organist of the church, assisted by a choir of about thirty-five voices; during the services several anthems were sung, including Kent's "Blessed be Thou," Clarke's "In Jewry is God known," Farrant's "Lord for thy tender mercies' sake," &c.; and on Tuesday, March 1st, the Southwark Choral Society, conducted by Mr. Courtney, gave a selection of sacred music, Mr. H. Bevington presiding at the organ. Both the services of the Sunday and the Tuesday's performance afforded great gratification to the congregation and their friends who were present.

A CONCERT took place at the Westbourne Hall on Thursday, 17th ult., when the following artistes assisted: Mesdames L. Vinning, Laura Baxter, Helen Percy, Oliviero, Georgi: Messrs. Lewis Thomas and Standish, vocalists; Miss M. Baxter, Messrs. Goffrie, Lazarus, Maycock, and Reynolds, instrumentalists, Messrs. C. F. Hargitt and Emile Berger officiated as Conductors.

THE West London Choral Union gave one of their entertainments at Portman Hall, on Wednesday evening, March 9th. Several pieces were encored. Mr. Congreve's "Hail the day that sees Him rise," from his lately-published Hymns and Anthems, was well performed.

THE Poplar Choral Union, conducted by Mr. G. Pullen, gave a Concert at the Hale Street Rooms, Poplar, on Tuesday evening, the 14th ult. The programme consisted of Mozart's 12th Mass, with full orchestral accompaniments, and selections from Handel's *Messiah*. Principal vocalists, Miss Stanton, Mr. Hoskin, Mr. Firney, Mr. Bowler, Mr. Williams and Mr. Barter. Leader, Mr. Brown. Trumpet, Mr. Wheeler. Harmonium, Mr. J. C. Leake.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Our Correspondents will greatly oblige by writing all names as clearly as possible, as we cannot be responsible for any mistakes which may occur.

We cannot undertake to return offered contributions; the authors, therefore, will do well to retain copies.

A Notice is sent to all Subscribers whose payment in advance is exhausted. The paper will be discontinued where the Subscriber neglects to renew. We again remind those who are disappointed in getting back numbers, that only the music pages are stereotyped, and of the rest of the paper, only sufficient are printed to supply the current sale.

Notices of concerts and other information supplied by our friends in the country, must be forwarded as early as possible after the occurrence otherwise they cannot be inserted. Our correspondents must specifically denote the date of each concert, for without such date no notice can be taken of the performance. All communications must be authenticated by the proper name and address of the writer.

Brief Summary of Country News.

BELFAST.—The Anacreontic Society gave a vocal and instrumental concert in the Ulster Hall on the 11th ult. The solo vocalists were Miss Whitham, Messrs. Talbot, Jack, Cramsie, and Mulligan. Instrumentalists: Mrs. F. Robinson and Mr. B. H. Carroll, pianoforte; Mr. H. Loveday, violin; and Herr Elsner, violoncello. Dr. E. S. Chipp conducted.—MR. GEORGE WASHINGTON gave a concert in the Victoria Hall on the evening of the 14th ult., assisted by Mrs. Ling, Miss O'Toole, Messrs. Lee and Clarke. Harpist, Mr. Bagley. Pianoforte, Mr. P. Mulholland. Conductor, Mr. G. Washington.

BRISTOL.—The twelfth and last of the Monday popular concerts for the season, took place at the Athenæum, on Monday, the 21st ult. The vocalists were Miss A. Watson, Mr. Merrick and Mr. Mills. These concerts are to be recommenced on the first Monday in October.

BROMLEY (Kent).—A choral union was formed for this town and neighbourhood in October last under the direction of Mr. Griffiths, Organist of St. George's, Bickley. The society bids fair to become very popular in the locality, and the first concert is to be given on Thursday the 7th inst.

BROSELEY.—The fourth of a series of popular concerts was given in the Town Hall on February 29th, and was very successful. The performance comprised some of the best overtures, glees, part-songs, &c. Leader, Mr. Rhoden.

CARDIFF.—On Tuesday, 23rd February, Master Willie Pape gave one of his pianoforte "Recitals," at the Cardiff Arms Assembly Rooms. On Thursday, the 3rd ult., the members of the Musical Union gave their first concert for the season at the Town Hall Assembly Rooms. The music consisted principally of part-songs by Mendelssohn, Kücken, and Weber. "The Young Musicians," which was undoubtedly the gem of the evening, was rapturously encored. Signor Paggi's fantasia on "Trovatore," accompanied by Mr. W. B. Kingston, was well rendered; and a fantasia in F sharp minor, played by Mr. J. B. Wilke on the pianoforte, was much admired.

CHELTHENHAM.—The second of a series of Quartett Concerts was given at Hale's Music Room, on Monday Feb. 22nd, by Messrs. Blagrove and M. Von Holst. Mr. M. Von Holst presided at the harmonium, and Messrs. H. Blagrove, Zerbin, R. Blagrove, and Aylward, took part in the quartetts. A portion of the programme was devoted to vocal music.

CRADLEY HEATH.—Miss Homer gave a grand evening concert in the School Rooms on Tuesday, 15th ult. Principal vocalists, Misses Homer, Mr. Mainwaring, and Mr. Adams, assisted by an efficient chorus. The programme consisted of glees and songs from the best masters. Mr. B. Dingley, jun., conducted.

DUBLIN.—On Palm Sunday, the 20th ult., a grand performance of sacred music was given in the Church of St. Nicholas of Myra by the Harmonic Society of St. Cecilia. The ceremonies opened with Mozart's Kyrie, No. 12, after which the music of Palestrina's *Passione* was given with an effect equal to that given in the Sistine Chapel, Rome. The Ave Regina by Toriano, Meditabor by Casali, the O Sacrum by Farrant, Haydn's Credo, No. 9, and Gounod's Agnus Dei were also well rendered. The whole of the music was unaccompanied, and was under the able conductorship of Mr. J. M. Glynn.

DUNEDIN (Otago, N.Z.).—The Dunedin Philharmonic Society, projected by Mr. Geo. R. West (late of Cambridge), gave its first Quarterly Concert of Sacred Music on Christmas Eve, when Handel's *Messiah* was performed before a very numerous and select audience. Considering the short time the society has been in formation, and to judge by the efficiency of the choir on their first performance, we expect at no very distant period to be able to chronicle the existence of a good musical society in Otago.

EAST MOULSEY (Surrey).—On Thursday evening, March 17th, a concert was given by the Church Choir in the National School Rooms. The programme consisted of sacred and secular music. Mr. G. A. Taylor conducted, and Mr. A. Cox presided at the pianoforte.

GLOUCESTER.—On Tuesday evening, Feb. 23rd, an amateur concert of sacred and secular music was given in the Corn Exchange, in aid of the funds for the restoration of the Parish School of Longhope. The programme consisted of songs, duets, glees, &c., which were all exceedingly well rendered. Mr. F. Smith conducted, and Mr. Taylor presided at the pianoforte.

HORSELYDOWN.—The members of the Union Chapel Singing Association gave their Third Annual Concert of vocal and instrumental music on Tuesday, 1st ult. The sacred portion of the programme comprised many of the *chefs-d'œuvres* of Handel, Haydn, and Mozart, while the secular part included most of the favorite glees, madrigals, &c. The principal vocalists were Miss Emily Frazer, Miss L. Roberts, and Miss Poole, Mr. Marler and Mr. Davey. Mr. J. Wells conducted.

INVERNESS.—The second concert given by the Choral Union was held in the Northern Meeting Room, on

Friday evening, February 19th, before a crowded and appreciative audience. Mr. Warren acted as conductor on the occasion, and Mr. Gowanlock as leader. Hatton's cantata "Robin Hood," performed for the first time in Inverness, was exceedingly well sustained; the part-songs in the course of it, particularly "Under the Greenwood Tree," being especially deserving of notice. The concert concluded with the "National Anthem."

ISLE OF CUMBRAE.—The newly-formed "Cumbrae Choral Society" gave a rehearsal on the 17th ult. The programme included Farrant's "Lord, for Thy tender mercies' sake;" "Father of Heaven!" from Mehul's *Joseph*; Hatton's "Softly fall the shades of evening;" Pear-all's "Oh who will o'er the downs so free;" and Miss Macirone's "Sir Knight, Sir Knight," which last composition received the most enthusiastic encore of the evening, the whole rehearsal being quite successful.

KETTERING.—On Tuesday evening, 8th ult., a concert of vocal and instrumental music was given at the Corn Exchange in connection with the Mutual Improvement Society. Mr. Naylor presided at the harmonium and pianoforte, and Mr. Wyse performed a solo on the flute.

MANCHESTER.—The new organ built for the Chorlton Road Congregational Chapel, was opened on Wednesday, 9th ult., by Dr. Spark, of Leeds. The programme included the Overture to Spohr's *Last Judgment*; "The Vesper Hymn," with variations and fugue by Dr. Spark; one of Bach's grand fugues, &c. The performance was probably one of the finest that has been heard in this city. On Sunday, 20th ult., the musical service of the Greek Church was sung by an efficient choir of male voices. The Greek melodies are composed by J. H. N. Chaviara, Esq. (first reformator of Greek ecclesiastical music), and harmonized by Mr. Jos. Yarwood, the conductor of the choir. This is probably the first time in England of a church service being performed with male voices. On Good Friday, a concert of sacred music, consisting of selections from Handel's *Judas Maccabeus* and *Messiah*, was given in the Free Trade Hall. The principal vocalists were Miss Rebecca Isaacs, Mrs. Brooke, Mr. Dumville, Mr. Wroe and Mr. Ramsbottom. The choruses were efficiently rendered by a choir of one hundred voices. Mr. Coulthurst conducted, and Mr. Edward Beswick presided at the organ.

MIDDLESBROUGH.—Mr. Franz Groenings gave his second Subscription Concert on Friday evening, 11th ult., in the Odd-Fellows' Hall, to a large audience. The first part of the programme consisted of a selection from *The Creation*, &c., and the second of songs, &c. Miss Leybourne and Mr. David Lambert were the principal vocalists. Solo violin, Mr. John Wood; and conductor and accompanist, Mr. F. Groenings.

ORE.—The third Annual Soiree in connection with the Working Men's Institute was held in the National School Room, on Monday, 7th ult. The Hastings Glee and Madrigal Union, conducted by Mr. E. F. Moore, kindly gave their services on this occasion. Among the pieces performed during the evening, were:—"The winds whistle cold," "O who will o'er the downs," "By Celia's Arbour," and others equally good and well known.

SLOUGH (Bucks).—A grand concert of vocal music was given here on the 2nd of February in aid of the funds for the provision of a new organ at the Parish Church of Upton, when a nett sum of £20 was realized for the object in view. The following professional vocalists gave their services on the occasion: Mrs. Alfred Gilbert, Messrs. Marriott, Tolley, and Barnby of the choir of St. George's Chapel, Windsor, and Mr. Thomas Cooke. The musical arrangements were under the direction of Mr. Edward Sankey, and the programme consisted of a selection of songs, duets, glees, four-part songs, and madrigals.

SOUTHPORT.—On Tuesday evening, 1st ult., a grand performance of Haydn's Oratorio *The Creation*, took place in the Town Hall. The following were the vocalists:

Miss Sarah Dobson, Mr. Cooper and Mr. David Lambert. The room was crowded to excess; and the fine singing of the principals, and the excellent manner in which the choruses were performed, gave universal satisfaction. Mr. Iles was leader, and Mr. S. Bembridge, of the Royal Academy, conductor.

STONEHOUSE.—The members of the Plymouth, Devonport and Stonehouse Choral Society gave a grand sacred concert at St. George's Hall, on Tuesday, 22nd ult. The performance opened with Mozart's *Twelfth Mass*, which was followed by Haydn's *Creation*. The principal soloists were Miss E. Boden, Miss Bailey, Mr. Montem Smith, and Mr. Lambert. Mr. Hele presided at the organ, and Mr. Moon conducted.

TREHERBERT (Glamorganshire).—A Concert of instrumental and vocal music took place in the National School-rooms on the evening of the 23rd February. The instrumental part was conducted by Miss Gedrych, of Cardiff, and the vocal portions most efficiently performed by Miss Walters, of Cardiff, Messrs. D. Morgan, R. Rees, Dowlais, H. Diddin, of Treherbert, and E. Wozley of Treorki. The programme comprised selections from Handel, Mendelssohn, Haydn, Bishop, Balfe, &c.

WEST MELTON (near Rotherham).—An amateur concert of sacred and secular music was given at the Congregational School Room, on Tuesday evening, 15th ult., in compliment to Miss Clarke, the organist, now removing to London. The selection was from the *Musical Times*, the *Messiah*, and *Elijah*. The choir of the chapel was assisted by a few neighbouring friends, numbering in all about twenty voices. The soloists were Miss S. E. Boyd, the Rev. J. Robertshaw, Messrs. H. J. Boyd, A. Harrison and C. Russell. The minister of the chapel conducted.

WORCESTER.—The Festival Choral Society gave their second Concert of the season at the Music Hall, on the 15th ult. The programme consisted of selections from Haydn's *Creation* and Mendelssohn's *St. Paul*. The principals were Miss Banks, and Messrs. Hunt and Briggs of the Chapel Royal, Windsor. Mr. Elgar presided at the harmonium, and Mr. Taylor at the pianoforte, and Mr. Done conducted. The rendering of the choruses did great credit to the society, and was a proof of the able training received from their conductor.

ORGAN APPOINTMENTS.—Master John Horsman (of Burstow) has been appointed organist to the Parish Church, Horne, Surrey.—Mr. E. J. Lee, to Broomhill Chapel, Sheffield.—Mr. Thomas Wingham to All Saints, Paddington.—Mr. Edwin M. Lott, to Christ Church, Kensington Park.—Mr. E. Griffiths, to St. George's New Church, Bickley.—Mr. R. Glenn Wesley, to the New Church of St. Augustin, Highbury New Park.

OBITUARY.—January 23rd, at Exeter, Mr. J. G. Pinney, Organist of the Parish Church, and also of All Saints' Church, Sidmouth; aged 23 years.—Feb. 25th, at Lucknow Villa, Cheltenham, Mr. Charles Henry Hale; aged 78.

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